The Canara Bank branches prepare a Branch Credit Plan each financial year. This plan specifically stipulates the amount to be disbursed to various activities under Sericulture.

The Corporation Bank has formulated Corp Kisan tie-up Scheme under which arrangements to farmers engaged in various activities including Sericulture are included.

The Syndicate bank also includes silk & silk industry in its SSI schemes and has advanced substantial amounts to this sector.

The Vijaya Bank ensures that the entire requirements of sericulture farmers & silk industry are met through various schemes of the bank, under agriculture or under SSI.

The State Bank of Mysore has a Special Plan for promotion of silk and silk industry for financing of mulberry cultivation etc.

Aid to farmers by banks in Karnataka

1379. SHRIMATI PREMA CARIAPPA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what role the five Public Sector banks based in Karnataka have played during the last three years to mitigate the hardships of farmers and village artisans who have consistently been affected by worst drought conditions in the State, year-wise and bank-wise; and

(b) the number of persons benefitted, district-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Import of obsolete medical equipments

1380. SHRI DARA SINGH CHAUHAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of misuse of the ten year limit rule by importers of refurbished medical equipment wherein outdated equipment is being imported and released regularly from cargo terminal at Delhi, IGI Airport by the customs;